

CLASSIFICATION <u>SECRET</u>		25X1
COUNTRY <u>Czechoslovakia</u>	REPORT	25X1
TOPIC <u>Border Guards and Border Fortifications along the Border between Czechoslovakia and East Germany in the Area South and West of Zittau</u>		25X1
EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1
DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED <u>24 March 1955</u>	25X1
REFERENCES		
PAGES <u>1</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS		
This is UNEVALUATED Information		25X1

- Between 9 and 25 January 1955, an almost continuous obstacle was observed on the Czech side of the border between Czechoslovakia and East Germany in the mountains south of Zittau (O 51/F 97). Two breaks, each of which was 300 meters long, were observed east of the timber forest and south of Jonsdorf (O 51/F 97). These small gaps in the Zittau Mountains, however, were of an exceptional nature.
- The border obstacle on the Czech side of the border included a strip of plowed land about 20 meters wide which was located closest to the border; a barbed-wire fence, about 1.5 meters high, with very narrow intervals between the wires, which was set up along the strip of plowed land; and another barbed-wire fence, about 2.5 meters high, which was set up parallel to, and 3 meters distant from the first barbed-wire fence. The border zone was also secured by watchtowers 12 to 15 meters high, some of which were equipped with searchlights. It appeared that not all these towers were occupied. Unoccupied watchtowers which were equipped with searchlights were also observed in the area between Neugersdorf (O 51/F 88) and Ebersbach (O 52/F 89). The Gross Schoenau (O 51/F 87) - Varnsdorf (O 51/G 87) - Seifhennersdorf (O 51/F 88) railroad line, in so far as it extended over Czech territory, was also controlled by means of watchtowers which were set up north and south of it.
- Soldiers who wore blue or earth-colored fatigue uniforms without insignia and earth-colored garrison caps were observed spanning the barbed wire on the Czech side. Wooden poles and barbed wire were supplied by horse teams.
- In January 1955, KVP patrol activities on the German side were also intensified. Ski patrols in the mountains wore white padded camouflage clothing. Checking for identity cards was intensified at the trains arriving at and departing from Jonsdorf and Oybin (O 51/F 97).

Comment. A previous report ( ) contained information on the improvement of the fortifications along the border between Czechoslovakia and East Germany.